

A STUDY THROUGH  
THE GOSPEL OF  
**LUKE**



“...for the Son of Man has come to seek and  
to save that which was lost”

- Luke 19:10

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# Lesson 1 – Setting the Stage

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## A little bit about the author

- ✚ Find occasions where Luke's name is mentioned in the New Testament.
  - What was Luke's occupation?
  
  - With which apostle did Luke often travel?

**For those who want to do some extra research, answer the following question:**

*How do we know that Luke was the author of Luke and Acts?*

## Read Luke 1:1-4

- ✚ To whom was the book of Luke addressed? Notice that the book of Acts is addressed to the same person. Consider Luke as Volume 1 (Life of Jesus) and Acts as Volume 2 (History of the Early Church).
  
- ✚ What is Luke's purpose in writing his gospel account according to these 4 verses?

## Key Themes in Luke – Pay attention to these themes as you study through the book of Luke.

- ✚ **The Gospel for the Gentiles** – As Matthew's book was directed to the Jews, Luke's account was directed to Greeks / Gentiles.
- ✚ **The Gospel of Prayer and Praise** – Notice the prayers and praise in Luke that are not mentioned in the other three Gospels.
- ✚ **The Gospel for Women** – Take note of Jesus' interaction with women in Luke.
- ✚ **The Gospel of the Son of Man** – This term is used for Jesus ~26 times in Luke. The other three Gospels also use this term frequently, but it will be important in our study of Luke to know what the term "Son of Man" means..

## Key Verse in Luke

- ✚ Luke 19:10 – *"for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."*

## Lesson 2 – Two Birth Announcements

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Read Luke 1 and answer these summary questions.

- ✚ Explain how each birth, the birth of John the Baptist and the birth of Jesus, would be miraculous.
- ✚ Why was Zacharias not able to speak for nine months?
- ✚ Why was John the Baptist born, according to Gabriel? What was his role in connection to Jesus? (verses 13-17)
- ✚ Why was Jesus born, according to Gabriel? What would be His purpose? (verses 30-33)
- ✚ Write down the examples of the working of the Holy Spirit mentioned in chapter 1.
- ✚ **Prayer, Praise and Prophecy** – In Luke 1, Zacharias, Elizabeth and Mary all burst forth with praise. Briefly summarize their words of praise.
  - **Elizabeth (verses 39-45)**
  - **Mary (verses 46-55)**
  - **Zacharias (verses 63-78)**
- ✚ Use a Bible map to locate the regions of Galilee and Judea. Also locate Bethlehem, Nazareth, and Jerusalem.

*Use a Bible map to locate the regions of Galilee and Judea.*

*Also locate Bethlehem, Nazareth, and Jerusalem.*

### Application Questions

✚ **For with God nothing will be impossible.** What lessons in faith and trust in God can be learned from this chapter?

- From Mary?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- From Elizabeth?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- From Zacharias?

✚ **“Righteous before God.”** Consider the righteous character of the people chosen to be parents of John the Baptist and Jesus. What are some lessons we can learn in this for our own lives? Is God going to call us to greater things if we fail to do the first things He asked of us?

## FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.

### Divisions of the Priesthood

- Who was the Old Testament king who organized the priesthood into divisions?

### Altar of Incense

- What is the altar of incense and where was it placed within the Temple?

### Herod, king of Judea

- Find out some background information on Herod the Great, who ruled Judea when Jesus was born.

### The angel Gabriel

- Why is it very significant that the angel Gabriel appeared to announced these births?

### Elijah

- John the Baptist was compared to Elijah the prophet. How is John like Elijah?
- Find two Old Testament prophecies of John the Baptist.

# Lesson 3 – A Savior Is Born

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Read Luke 2 and answer these summary questions.

- ✚ Why did Joseph and Mary have to travel to Bethlehem? Why was Mary's baby son, Jesus, placed in a manger (feed trough)?
  
- ✚ **Moments with Jesus** – Describe the various encounters that the following people had with Jesus, and include how they responded to these great events.
  - **Shepherds and Angels (2:8-20)**
  
  - **Simeon the priest (2:21-35)**
  
  - **Anna the prophetess (2:36-38)**
  
  - **Teachers in the temple when Jesus was 12 (Luke 2:46-47)**
  
  - **Joseph and Mary when Jesus was 12 (Luke 2:41-51)**

***What does the name "Jesus" mean?***

***Which Old Testament prophet foretold that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem?***

***How far is it from Nazareth to Bethlehem?***

## Application Questions

- ✚ Consider Jesus' humble beginnings (poor parents, no room for them in the inn, laid in a manger) and connect it to the lifestyle Jesus lived on this earth and the manner in which He died. What if Jesus would have lived His life like a rock star? How would you relate to Him?
  
- ✚ Luke takes note of the growth of John the Baptist (Luke 1:80) and Jesus (Luke 2:40,52) as young men maturing into adults with a strong faith. Luke also gave us insight into the character of Jesus as a 12 year old. Jesus understood His role and purpose in connection with His Father in heaven. He sat with the Jewish teachers, and He listened to them and asked them questions. He understood His role as a son to Mary and Joseph and He was obedient to them. He kept growing in wisdom and built a strong relationship with God and with others (Luke 2:42-52).
  - What are ways we can use these thoughts to encourage our young men and women?
  
  - What are some lessons we can learn as parents? For example, why is it so hard sometimes for parents as our children transition into adults?

## FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.

### Betrothed

- Find information on what it meant in Jewish culture that Joseph and Mary were “betrothed.” Is this the same as being engaged?

### Augustus

- When did Augustus Caesar rule the Roman Empire?
- Also, look up information regarding the dates when Quirinius governed Syria.

### Turtledoves and Pigeons

- There are two commands from the Law of Moses that are referenced in Luke 2:23-24. The first law is regarding the firstborn son belonging to the Lord, and the other is concerning the purification of the woman after she gave birth.
  - How were the parents to “redeem” their firstborn son?
  - What indication is given in Leviticus 12:8 and Luke 2:23-24 to show that Joseph and Mary were poor?

### CREATING QUITE A STIR

There were many in the days of Jesus who were anticipating that the coming of the Messiah was near. Simeon the priest was “*waiting for the consolation of Israel*” (Luke 2:25), and Anna the prophetess spoke with many who were “*waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem*” (Luke 2:38). A member of the Jewish Council named Joseph of Arimathea was described as a man who had been “*looking for the kingdom of God*” (Luke 23:51). Many had understood the prophecies, specifically those of Daniel, to indicate that soon that the Messiah would come and sit upon the throne of David.

So, the events surrounding the births of John the Baptist and Jesus created quite a stir. Matthew recorded that the wise men came to Herod looking for the “King of the Jews” and this disturbed “*all Jerusalem*” including Herod himself (Matthew 2:1-3). Zacharias, after speaking with Gabriel, came out of the temple mute, and the “*whole multitude*” witnessed him coming out of the temple and knew that he had seen a vision (Luke 1:10,21-22). Fear came upon “*all who dwelt around*” John the Baptist and his family, and they wondered what kind of child he would be (Luke 1:58,65-66). After the shepherds saw the angels and then witnessed the baby Jesus in a manger in Bethlehem they spread the word everywhere and “*all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them*” (Luke 2:18). Luke wrote that “*all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers*” when recording Jesus’ visit to the temple at 12 years old (Luke 2:47).

These are all seeds of anticipation that are planted by God to prepare the hearts of the people for the coming of the Messiah, but these seeds are left to germinate for 18 more years until Jesus turns 30, then He will truly be revealed to Israel. The Jews are eagerly waiting for the Messiah, but how will they receive the news when they are told that Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah, their Savior, the Son of God?

## Lesson 4 – John Preaches Repentance

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Read Luke 3 and answer these summary questions.

- ✚ Take note of Luke’s historical accuracy. He pinpointed with precision the beginning of the ministry of John the Baptist.
  - Luke 3:1 – In the 15<sup>th</sup> year of \_\_\_\_\_ Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of \_\_\_\_\_, and Herod being tetrarch of \_\_\_\_\_, and his brother \_\_\_\_\_ tetrarch of the region of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abienez, during the high priesthood of Annas and \_\_\_\_\_, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness.
  
- ✚ The Jews placed great value in being Abraham’s children. What did John say about this to the multitudes of Jews listening to him (Luke 3:7-9)?
  
  
- ✚ **Repent!** John’s preaching and John’s baptism was all about repentance (Luke 3:3). Repentance is a changing of the will as a person determines in his heart to leave wickedness and follow God. That change of will, however, must produce action. What did John say was required of these various groups in order for them to “bear fruits worthy of repentance?”
  - **The crowds (Luke 3:10-11)**
  
  - **Tax collectors (Luke 3:12-13)**
  
  - **Soldiers (Luke 3:14)**
  
  - **Herod (Luke 3:19-20 – John was put in prison for this!)**
  
- ✚ **Holy Spirit and Fire.** John the Baptist prophesied that Jesus would come and baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire (Luke 3:16-17).
  - **The baptism with the Holy Spirit** will be poured out upon the apostles in the beginning of Acts (Acts 1:4-5; 2:1-4). More will be said about this later.
  - **The baptism with fire** is described by John as Jesus on the Judgment Day (Luke 3:17). What farming analogy is used by John to describe what Jesus will do on that day?
  
- ✚ Describe the events that occurred immediately after Jesus’ baptism (Luke 3:21-22).
  
  
- ✚ **Jesus’s family tree.**
  - How far back does Luke take Jesus’ genealogy? For comparison, Matthew records Jesus’ family ancestry back to Abraham, but Luke goes back even farther (Luke 3:38).

***Which prophet did Luke quote in Luke 3:4 who foretold the coming of John the Baptist?***

***How old was Jesus when He began His ministry (Luke 3:23)?***

### **Application Questions**

- ✚ What can we learn about preaching and teaching from looking at the life of John the Baptist?
  
- ✚ How do we personally apply the lessons of repentance that John preached? If I am not a Jew, or a soldier, or a tax collector, how do I use for my life what John taught about repentance?

## **FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.**

### **Tetrarch**

- ✚ What is a tetrarch, and how does this connect to the men who were “tetrarchs” of the various regions mentioned by Luke in 3:1?

### **Genealogies of Luke and Matthew**

- ✚ Give an explanation as to why Luke’s genealogy of Jesus goes through Nathan the son of David, while Matthew’s genealogy of Jesus goes through Solomon the son of David.

# Lesson 5 – To Heal the Brokenhearted

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Read Luke 4 and answer these summary questions.

**✠ JESUS TEMPTED BY SATAN (LUKE 4:1-13)**

- For how many days was Jesus in the wilderness as He fasted and faced the Devil?
- List the three temptations mentioned here.
- The apostle John wrote that all sin in the world can be summarized in three things: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life (1 John 2:15-17). Connect these three things to how Satan tried to tempt Jesus.
- What do we learn about Satan through these temptations?
- What do we learn about Jesus and how to resist temptations?
- Explain what it meant that Satan left Jesus until an “opportune” time (4:13).

***Who is Satan?***

***Which prophets of God in the OT fasted for 40 days?***

***“Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee...and He taught in their synagogues...”***

**✠ JESUS REJECTED IN HIS HOMETOWN OF NAZARETH (LUKE 4:14-30).**

- What prophecy did Jesus read and claim it was fulfilled in Him?
- Why were the widow of Zarephath (1 Kings 17) and Naaman (2 Kings 5) perfect illustrations that a prophet is not accepted in his own country?
- How did the people of Nazareth react to these words?

“You will surely say this proverb to Me, ‘Physician, heal yourself!’”

**✠ JESUS’ MOVE TO CAPERNAUM (LUKE 4:31-44)**

- Capernaum was a kind of northern headquarters for Jesus’ Galilean ministry.
- Be ready to discuss the various miracles that Jesus performed in Galilee.
  - Demons cast out (4:33-35).
  - Peter’s mother-in-law healed (4:38-39).
  - What was the people’s reaction to all of this (4:32,36-37,40)?

### Application Questions

#### ✚ “FOR THIS PURPOSE I HAVE BEEN SENT” (LUKE 4:42-44).

- Jesus left towns where there were sick people waiting to be healed. Why would Jesus do that if He truly was a *loving* person?
- What was Jesus’ real purpose on earth?
- How does that relate to me today? Is God’s goal to end all my trials on earth?

## FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.

### He Rebuked the Demons

✚ Why did Jesus command the demons to be quiet when they confessed Jesus to be the “Holy One of God” and the “Son of God” (4:34,41)? It is sadly ironic that the demons knew Jesus as the Son of God (4:41), and Satan knew Jesus was the Son of God (4:3,9), but His own people in ***His own hometown*** refused to acknowledge Him, in fact they tried to kill Him.

✚ Demon possession - Why was it allowed to occur? What are the lessons to be learned by Jesus and His apostles casting demons out of people? Does demon possession still happen today?

### Satan

✚ Why does God allow Satan to exist?

# Lesson 6 – The Great Physician

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Read Luke 5 and answer these summary questions.

**✠ FISHERS OF MEN (LUKE 5:1-11)**

- Jesus would sometimes launch out on a boat and teach the people on shore from the boat (see also Mark 3:7-10; 4:1).
- Jesus came to these experienced fishermen after they had toiled “all night and caught nothing.” They are washing and mending their nets, meaning that they were finished. Jesus instructed them to launch out into the deep and put down their nets.
  - Describe the great catch of fish and the reaction of Peter (and the others).
  - What was Jesus’ purpose in this great catch of fish? This was just one of many teachable moments for the disciples!

*What is another name for the Lake of Gennesaret?*

***“So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him” (Luke 5:11).***

**✠ I AM WILLING, BE CLEANSED (LUKE 5:12-16)**

- Jesus touched the leper and immediately the leper was healed. What specific instructions were given by Jesus to the healed leper?
- Why would Jesus “withdraw” to desolate places?

**✠ WHICH IS EASIER TO SAY? (LUKE 5:17-26)**

- Who had come from “every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem” to see Jesus as He was teaching and healing?
- Jesus “saw their faith.” How did the men in vs. 18-19 show their great faith in Jesus?
- What miracle was performed by Jesus to visually demonstrate to all present (especially to His critics) that He indeed had power on earth to forgive sins?

*“We have seen strange things today!”  
(Luke 5:26)*

**✠ WHY DO YOU EAT AND DRINK WITH TAX COLLECTORS AND SINNERS? (LUKE 5:27-32)**

- Levi (Matthew) was a tax collector sitting at his tax booth collecting taxes from his Jewish brethren for the Roman Empire when Jesus called him to follow.
  - Levi held a “great feast” and invited Jesus to his house. Who also came to this feast and ate with Jesus?
  - What was Jesus’ response to the Pharisees who complained to His disciples that He was eating with the wrong people?

***“So he (Levi) left all, rose up, and followed Him” (Luke 5:28).***

### ✚ WHY DON'T YOUR DISCIPLES FAST? (LUKE 5:33-39)

- Here is but another of the complaints leveled against Jesus by the Jewish leadership. Always in search of a fault, they perceived an inconsistency and tried to pounce on it. The disciples of John the Baptist and also the disciples of the Pharisees fasted often, but the disciples of Jesus did not at this time. The Pharisees apparently thought there was some contradiction and were quick to point it out to Jesus.
- Three illustrations are given by Jesus to explain why His disciples were not fasting. These three examples are all connected to **things that are not fitting**. It is not fitting at this time for Jesus' disciples to fast; however, there will be a time when they will fast.
  - **Friends of the bridegroom.** Do you fast or do you eat and rejoice on your friend's wedding day?
  - **New cloth onto old cloth.** What happens when you sew a piece of new cloth onto an old garment?
  - **New wine into old wineskins.** Why are old wineskins stretched out? What happens when you put new wine into those stretched out wineskins?

### Application Questions

- ✚ **THE FAULTFINDERS.** The Pharisees and other members of the Jewish leadership were constantly seeking to find some flaw in Jesus. They constantly viewed Him with suspicion, and monitored His every move and His every word to find an occasion to pick Him to pieces. How do we do this in our own relationships with others? At home? At church? At work? What is the cure for being a nitpicker?

## FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.

### The Old is Better

- ✚ Explain the meaning behind the statement of Jesus in Luke 5:39: "And no one, having drunk old wine, immediately desires new; for he says, 'The old is better.'"

### Don't tell anyone!

- ✚ Jesus told the healed leper not to tell anyone about this great miracle. He often gave this command to those He healed (Matthew 9:30; Matthew 12:16). It was extremely rare for Jesus to tell the person healed to go and tell others about what just happened (Mark 5:19). So why would Jesus command people not to tell others about these great miracles? They never listened to Him anyway (Mark 7:36-37)!

# Lesson 7 – Lord of the Sabbath

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Read Luke 6 and answer these summary questions.

✠ JESUS IS CHALLENGED ABOUT THE SABBATH LAW (LUKE 6:1-11)

- It would be very helpful to read the accounts of these same events as recorded in Matthew 12:1-15 and Mark 2:23—3:7.
- Were Jesus' disciples breaking the Sabbath law by eating some grain on the Sabbath, or were they breaking a tradition of the Pharisees?
- Why would Jesus use the example of David eating the showbread? Is Jesus justifying breaking God's law in certain situations?
- How was the character and intent of the Pharisees clearly revealed here?

*He had looked around at them with anger, being grieved by the hardness of their hearts (Mark 3:5).*

✠ JESUS CHOOSES HIS 12 APOSTLES (LUKE 6:12-16)

- Define the word "apostle."
- What did Jesus do all night before selecting His apostles?

✠ JESUS PREACHES TO THE CROWDS (LUKE 6:17-49)

- Look over the times Jesus used "Blessed" (6:20-22) and "Woe" (6:24-26) in this sermon. Three *blessings* and three *woes* contrasted two very different groups of people. What did you learn from these verses?
- Give a few examples from Jesus' sermon of how should we treat others, whether friend of foe, according to Jesus (6:27-45).
- Define the word "disciple." See Luke 6:40 for a good working definition of a disciple.
- How did Jesus demonstrate the importance of obedience to Him (6:46-49)?

### **Application Questions**

- ✚ **SIMON THE ZEALOT AND MATTHEW THE TAX COLLECTOR.** Jesus chose a man (Simon) who zealously opposed the Roman Empire and he placed that man in a group with another man (Matthew or Levi) who worked for the Roman Empire. What can we learn from this in our dealings with a diversity of people in the kingdom of heaven?

## **FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.**

### **Sabbath**

- ✚ Is the Sabbath law that God gave through Moses still binding on us today as Christians?

### **Names of the Apostles**

- ✚ Compare and contrast the lists of the apostles in Matthew 10:1-4, Mark 3:13-19 and Acts 1:12. Also search these twelve apostles in the Scripture and in a Bible dictionary to see the different names and descriptions by which they are called. For example, Thomas is called “the Twin” several times in John’s Gospel.

### **Apostles Today**

- ✚ Can Christians be “apostles” today like Peter or John?

# Lesson 8 – I Am Not Worthy

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Read Luke 7 and answer these summary questions.

✠ **THE FAITH OF THE ROMAN CENTURION (LUKE 7:1-10)**

- Can you imagine saying or doing something that caused the Creator of the Universe to “marvel”? This Roman officer did!
- What did you learn about the character traits of the Roman centurion in these ten verses? What is the testimony of the Jewish elders regarding him?
- Describe the centurion’s understanding of both the **power** of Jesus and his own **position** in relationship to Jesus. He could have commanded Jesus, but he did not.
- What was so “great” about the faith of the centurion? Why did Jesus say that “not even in Israel” is there a person with faith like this?

*“I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.”*

✠ **JESUS STOPPED A FUNERAL IN NAIN (LUKE 7:11-17)**

- A widow lost her only son; now her husband and her son are both gone. Her condition is hopeless and helpless. She walks beside the coffin of her son as the tears stream down her face. What did Jesus “feel” for her (vs. 13)?
- How did the crowds respond to Jesus raising this widow’s son?

✠ **WHAT DID YOU GO OUT TO SEE? (LUKE 7:18-35)**

- John the Baptist is in prison for preaching the truth. He was sent to testify about Jesus that He was the Messiah and the Lamb of God. Before he was put in prison, he understood that he must “decrease,” but Jesus must “increase” (John 3:30). However, he now sends two of his disciples to ask Jesus if He is really the “Expected One.” John has not lost his faith and conviction, he just needs reassurance.
  - How did Jesus answer this question, and what prophecy did He quote as He sent the messengers back to John?
- What did Jesus say to the crowds about John the Baptist (vs. 24-28)?
- Contrast the response of the tax collectors and the Pharisees to the preaching and baptism of John (vs. 29-30).
- Why would Jesus compare His generation to children sitting in the marketplace?

### ✚ DO YOU SEE THIS WOMAN? (LUKE 7:36-50)

- Two very different hearts or spiritual conditions are again displayed in this section.
  - How did the sinful woman show her overwhelming faith and gratitude for the forgiveness she received from Jesus?
  - How was Simon the Pharisee completely opposite in his attitude? Describe the disdain that he felt toward the sinful woman and Jesus.
- What parable was told by Jesus to illustrate a person's gratitude toward forgiveness?

*This anointing of Jesus by the sinful woman is a different occasion than the anointing mentioned by the other gospel accounts. This anointing occurs early in Jesus' ministry in Galilee, while the other anointing happened in Bethany shortly before Jesus' crucifixion.*

### Application Questions

- ✚ **BLESSED RE-ASSURANCE.** Is it a sign of weakness that a person needs reassurance from God to give him or her some comfort / strength in times of great trials? Also, notice that God's comfort means different things for different folks. The widow was comforted by receiving her son back to life, but that was not the same way John was comforted. Jesus did not miraculously end John's suffering and release him from prison. John would be executed by Herod shortly. So when we seek God's comfort and reassurance, what can we learn from this (2 Cor. 12:7-10)?

## FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.

### Centurion

- ✚ What is a centurion?
- ✚ Find examples of other centurions in the Bible who showed remarkable qualities.

### Alabaster

- ✚ Luke mentioned that the sinful woman had an alabaster vial of perfume. Find more information on what this was.

# Lesson 9 – He Who Has Ears to Hear

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Read Luke 8 and answer these summary questions.

## ✠ JESUS' LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT (LUKE 8:1)

- Keep a watchful eye on Jesus' purposeful leadership training and development of His disciples. Below is just a glimpse into what Jesus did to prepare leaders in the kingdom.
  - 8:1 – The twelve were **with Him**. They spent a great deal of time observing and listening to Jesus.
  - 9:1 – He called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all the demons and to heal diseases. And **He sent them out** to proclaim the kingdom of God and to perform healing.
  - 10:1 – Now after this the **Lord appointed seventy others**, and **sent them in pairs** ahead of Him to every city and place where He Himself was about to come.

## ✠ THE WOMEN WHO HELPED JESUS (LUKE 8:2-3)

- Why was Mary Magdalene so grateful to Jesus (vs. 2)? **Note:** This is the same Mary who will be the first to see Jesus risen from the dead. She will be sent to report the risen Lord to the apostles who will not believe her!
- What interesting family connection did Joanna have (vs. 3)? Find another place where her name is mentioned in Luke's gospel.

## ✠ PARABLE OF THE SOWER (LUKE 8:4-18)

- Why did Jesus speak in parables, according to verse 10?
- Be ready to explain the parable of the sower and also be ready to discuss the application for Christians today as we "sow the seed."
- **For extra discussion:** If my heart is "rocky soil" or like the "wayside," is it possible to change and become good soil? If so, how? Practically speaking, how do I uproot the thorns (cares of this world) in my life?
- Why is it so important, according to Jesus, that we take care "how" we hear (verse 18)?

## ✠ MY MOTHER AND MY BROTHERS (LUKE 8:19-21)

- Mark records that Jesus' family thought He was out of His mind (Mark 3:21), while John noted that His brothers did not believe in Him (John 7:5). It seems that Jesus' brothers at this point are seeking to intervene and rescue Jesus from Himself.
- Who is Jesus' family, according to Jesus (verse 21)?

### ✚ WHERE IS YOUR FAITH? (LUKE 8:22-25)

- Describe the scene on the boat during this storm.
- Jesus expected their faith to be stronger at this point and He said so. This will not be the last time Jesus corrects His disciples for their weak faith. If they are going to lead the early church through incredible persecution, they will have to completely sell out to Jesus and put their whole lives in His capable hands. Keep in mind, though, that their faith may be small but it will grow tremendously through walking with Jesus. This is all part of their development as His disciples. What happens to us when our faith is weak during the storms of life? What can we learn from this moment with Jesus?

### ✚ DEMONS AND PIGS (LUKE 8:26-39)

- What was this demon's name and why was it so called?
- Put yourselves in the position of this formerly demon-possessed man. Think of the fact he had been naked and living in the tombs for some time. Now Jesus comes along and cast his demons out but sends them into herds of swine which drowned. The people of the region see you clothed and in your right mind and ask Jesus to leave because they are "gripped with fear" (vs. 37). Wouldn't you want to leave with Jesus, too? How about a new start, a fresh new life somewhere where people didn't know you? How about just the awesome experience of being with the One who saved you from those awful demons? So when he asked Jesus if he could come along, what did Jesus say (vs. 39)?

### ✚ 12 YEARS (LUKE 8:40-56)

- A 12 year old girl who is dying and a woman who had a hemorrhage for 12 years are both healed by Jesus.
- Who is Jairus, specifically what is his position? Consider this man's urgency for his daughter and the anguish he feels, but also the hope that he has in Jesus.
- What was different about the touch of this poor woman who reached out to touch Jesus' garment? What did Jesus know that Peter didn't know (8:45-46)? Jesus didn't have to stop either, He knew she was healed (and she knew she was healed) but He stopped to point out her faith to everyone else (vs. 47-48)!
- Which 3 apostles did Jesus take with Him when He went in to raise Jairus' daughter?

## FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.

### Abyss

- ✚ The demons begged Jesus not to command them to go into the abyss (Luke 8:31). What is the "abyss" and why did they not want to go there? What does this tell us about the demons understanding of their ultimate end (see also Matthew 8:29)?

# Lesson 10 – He Steadfastly Set His Face

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Read Luke 9 and answer these summary questions.

**✚ LIMITED COMMISSION (LUKE 9:1-6)**

- He sent His apostles out to proclaim the kingdom (preach the gospel) and to perform healing (vs. 6). In vs. 11, Luke noted that Jesus Himself proclaimed the kingdom and verified those claims by the miracles which He performed. Remember that Jesus told the messengers of John the Baptist that these miracles joined together with the preaching of the gospel to the poor served to prove that He was indeed the Messiah (Luke 7:18-23; Isaiah 35:5; 61:1).
- Matthew 10 shows that Jesus spent a great deal of time teaching and preparing His disciples before He sent them out on this mission. This mission is often called the “limited” commission because the apostles were specifically sent to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Later they will be sent to the whole world.
- What lessons in faith would the twelve learn as they were not allowed to bring money, food or extra clothing?

**✚ HEROD KEPT TRYING TO SEE JESUS (LUKE 9:7-9)**

- John the Baptist is dead. Herod by his own admission, had John beheaded. Why is Herod now so disturbed to hear about Jesus?
- In a few months, Jesus will respond to Herod’s requests to see Him (Luke 13:31-32), and will eventually see Herod face to face on the morning of the crucifixion (Luke 23:7-12).

**✚ JESUS AND THE DISCIPLES WITHDREW TO BETHSAIDA (LUKE 9:10-11)**

- Locate Bethsaida on a map of Palestine.
- This word “withdrew” is from a Greek word which means to “vacate down, to retire quietly, to go aside, to withdraw self” (Strong’s Greek Dictionary). After the twelve returned from their mission, they withdrew with Jesus to rest for a while (Mark 6:30-31). Matthew adds that Jesus had just received word about John the Baptist’s death (see Matthew 14:10-13). ***It was time to get away.***

**✚ FEEDING THE 5000 (LUKE 9:12-17)**

- They do not have rest or seclusion for long because the crowds quickly find them.
- Here is but one of many occasions that the disciples tried to send crowds or individuals away, while Jesus’ mindset is completely the opposite. What kind of training would this feeding of the 5000 be for the 12 apostles?
- Can you find another specific miracle that is recorded by all 4 gospel writers, other than the resurrection of Jesus from the dead?

#### **✠ THE GREAT CONFESSION (LUKE 9:18-22)**

- What does it mean that Jesus is the “Christ of God” (Luke 9:20) or that Jesus is the “Christ the Son of the Living God” (Matthew 16:16). As a side note, they are in Caesarea Philippi, when this confession is made. This city was built by Philip the tetrarch, son of Herod the Great, and named in honor of Tiberius Caesar and himself. It was a city full of idolatry and worship to many gods.
- Why would Jesus forbid His disciples at that time from confessing Jesus as the Christ?

#### **✠ IF ANYONE WISHES TO COME AFTER ME (LUKE 9:23-26)**

- Jesus wants the twelve eventually to understand that being the Christ means that He will be crucified and delivered over to wicked men to accomplish God’s purpose. He will also show them that to follow Him means that they themselves also will be delivered over to persecution by evil men who oppose God’s Way.
- What level of commitment does Jesus expect from His disciples (vs. 23-26)?

#### **✠ UNTIL THEY SEE THE KINGDOM OF GOD (LUKE 9:27)**

- “But I say to you truthfully, there are some of those standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God.”
- John the Baptist, followed by Jesus and His apostles all proclaimed that the kingdom of heaven was “at hand.” Jesus was at that time fulfilling the prophecies of all of the prophets regarding Him. The prophets foretold of the Messiah’s death, resurrection and ascension to the right hand of the throne of God. Jesus plainly stated that this will happen within the lifetime of many of those standing there. This teaching of Jesus is a clear rebuttal to those today in the 21<sup>st</sup> century who are still waiting for Jesus to come and reign in His kingdom.

#### **✠ THE TRANSFIGURATION OF JESUS (LUKE 9:28-36)**

- Exodus – Luke said that Moses and Elijah appeared in glory and spoke of the “departure” that Jesus was to accomplish in Jerusalem. This word, departure, is “exodus” in the Greek. Think of how this conversation with Moses and Elijah would be a comfort to Jesus as fixed His mind on what would happen in less than a year.
- Peter, James and John were eyewitnesses of this amazing event, and two of them later wrote of their experience (John 1:14; 2 Peter 1:15-18). At the time, however, Peter was overwhelmed with the excitement of having Jesus, Moses and Elijah in the same place at the same time! What did Peter want to do to honor them, and what did God have to say about it? Any lessons for us in this?

### ✚ HOW LONG SHALL I BE WITH YOU AND PUT UP WITH YOU? (LUKE 9:37-45)

- When Jesus came down from the mountain with Peter, James and John, what situation did Jesus encounter (see also Matthew 17:14-21; Mark 9:14-29)?
- Jesus had given the twelve “authority over all the demons” (Luke 9:1), so why were some of the apostles not able to cast out this demon?
- While the crowds were ooh-ing and aah-ing over Jesus’ wonderful miracle of exorcising the demon from this little boy, what did He turn and say to His disciples? Why did the disciples not understand what Jesus said (Luke 9:43-45)?

### ✚ DISCIPLESHIP – BECOMING JUST LIKE THE MASTER IN EVERY WAY

- **A spirit lacking humility (Luke 9:46-48)**
  - Isn’t it ironic? Jesus just told them that He was going to be crucified. However, that prophecy (which they clearly didn’t grasp) precipitated an argument among the apostles as to who was the greatest! How did Jesus illustrate to the apostles His point about who is truly great?
  - What does it sound like when we argue over who is the greatest? What are some things that we say when we are trying to prove to others how great we are? How do we do that in our relationships (church, family, work, school, etc.)?
- **A sectarian spirit (Luke 9:49-50)**
  - Why was John convinced that he needed to forbid someone from casting out demons? What did Jesus have to say about this?
  - What is the lesson in this for us? How can we be guilty of this attitude?
- **A condemning spirit (Luke 9:51-56)**
  - James and John wanted to call down fire on the Samaritans, just like the prophet Elijah did upon the soldiers of King Ahaziah (2 Kings 1). Why were James and John so upset with the Samaritans that they wanted to rain down death and judgment upon them?
  - Why would Jesus rebuke His disciples for this kind of attitude? How do we show this very same attitude in our relationships?
- **An uncommitted spirit (Luke 9:57-62)**
  - 3 people came to say they would follow Jesus and Jesus had some very hard words for them to swallow. What did Jesus answer to each of these statements?
    - “I will follow you wherever you go.”
    - But he said, “Permit me first to go and bury my father.”
    - “But first permit me to say good bye to those at home.”

## **FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.**

### **6 or 8 days**

- ✚ Skeptics and opponents of the Bible will point to Matthew and Mark as contradicting Luke because they give different time periods for the event of the transfiguration. Luke says 8 days (Luke 9:28), while Matthew and Mark say 6 days (Matthew 17:1; Mark 9:2). Do some research into possible explanations for the difference.

### **Herod Antipas – Adultery, incest, corruption, and murder**

- ✚ Herod the tetrarch (a.k.a. Antipas) was appointed over Galilee and Perea after his father, Herod the Great, died. He divorced his wife (who was a daughter of Aretas, king of Arabia) in order to marry Herodias, whom he stole from his brother, Philip the tetrarch. Herodias was a granddaughter of Herod the Great, which means that Herod Antipas married his own niece! To make it even sicker, that would make Herodias' daughter, the one who danced for him, his great niece. No wonder Jesus called him a "fox" (Luke 13:32). This is the same Herod whose soldiers will mock and beat Jesus the morning of His crucifixion. Eventually Herod Antipas was sent into exile by Rome, and he and Herodias died in exile. Find more information about Herod Antipas.

### **He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem (Luke 9:51)**

- ✚ Jesus' mind is set like concrete in accomplishing His purpose in Jerusalem. The Messiah prophesied through Isaiah that His face would be set "like flint" (Isaiah 50:7). A similar expression is used of the prophet Ezekiel (Ezekiel 3:8-9). Luke mentioned several times that Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem (Luke 9:51; 13:22; 17:11). This doesn't mean that Jesus went straight from Galilee to Jerusalem to die on the cross. There is a lot of travel that Jesus accomplishes in the year leading up to the cross (Galilee, Perea, Judea, Samaria, etc.), but Jesus never loses His focus on His singular purpose which is to offer Himself in Jerusalem for the sins of all mankind. Everything He says and does is focused on that very purpose. Keep this in mind as Jesus is interacting with the crowds, the twelve, and the Jewish leadership. He has come to seek and to save that which was lost, and ultimately to glorify God. This shapes all of His thoughts, His words and His behavior.

# Lesson 11 – You Go and Do Likewise

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Read Luke 10 and answer these summary questions.

## ✠ SEVENTY SENT OUT (LUKE 10:1-16)

- **Sent out two by two.** What is the wisdom in sending the disciples out in pairs as opposed to sending them all out alone?
- Summarize the instructions that Jesus gave the seventy before He sent them out. What were they to take? What were they to say? How were they to handle rejection?
- **Note:** Luke 10:7 is quoted by Paul in 1 Timothy 5:18 and called “Scripture.” You can see that within the lifetime of the apostles, the New Testament writings were put on an equal plain with the Old Testament as all inspired of God.

## ✠ THE SEVENTY RETURN (LUKE 10:17-24)

- Even though the seventy were amazed and rejoiced that they were given power to cast out demons, what did Jesus say is the true cause of rejoicing (vs. 19-20)?
- **Jesus rejoiced!** Why was Jesus so happy that He prayed right then in the presence of His disciples (vs. 21-22)?
- Why were their eyes “blessed” according to Jesus (vs. 23-24)?

## ✠ THE GOOD SAMARITAN (LUKE 10:25-37)

- What were the motives of the teacher of the Law who asked questions of Jesus according to verses 25 and 29?
- Be ready to retell the details of the story that Jesus tells about how the Samaritan showed how to love your neighbor. Why did Jesus use a **Samaritan** in the story?
- Here is a practical lesson on how to properly study the Bible.
  - **Observation: *What does the text say?***
    - Jesus pointed to the Law and asked what does it say (vs. 26)?
  - **Interpretation: *What does the text mean?***
    - Jesus then told a story to answer the question of “Who Is My Neighbor?” in order to properly interpret what “love your neighbor as yourself” means (vs. 36).
  - **Application: *How do I apply this text to my life? How do I live it?***
    - Jesus then said, “Go and do likewise” (vs. 37).

#### ✚ MARTHA, MARTHA (LUKE 10:38-42)

- What was Martha's state of mind, according to vs. 40? What did Jesus say to contrast Martha's focus and Mary's focus in vs. 41?
- Give some practical tips on how we are to do our daily duties that God expects us to (work, family, school, etc.) while keeping our minds on the "one thing" that matters.
- **Note:** Every single time Mary, sister of Lazarus and Martha, is mentioned in the 4 gospels, she is found at the feet of Jesus. There is only one recorded statement of Mary in the 4 gospels; however her actions and devotion are what bring the praise of Jesus.

## FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.

### Satan Fell Like Lightning

- ✚ When Jesus said He saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven, to what was He referring?

### Names written in heaven

- ✚ Find the references in both Old and New Testaments to the Book of Life.

### The one who rejects you (Luke 10:16)

- ✚ Can I reject the teachings of Jesus' apostles and still be pleasing to Jesus? What if I said that I only need to follow the teachings of Jesus, but I don't need to obey those of Paul, Peter or John?

### Tyre, Sidon and Sodom

- ✚ Dig into the background of these cities and see why it is such an incredible comparison that Jesus made between them and the cities of His day in which He performed many miracles (Chorazin, Bethsaida and Capernaum).

# Lesson 12 – An Evil Generation

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Read Luke 11 and answer these summary questions.

**✠ TEACH US TO PRAY (LUKE 11:1-13)**

- Be ready to discuss this model prayer / prayer outline that Jesus gives His disciples on how to pray (vs. 2-4).
- What parables or analogies did Jesus use here to encourage us in our prayers to our Father in heaven (vs. 5-13)?

**✠ IF SATAN CASTS OUT SATAN (LUKE 11:14-26)**

- Who is Beelzebul, and what was Jesus' response to those who accused Him of casting out demons by the power of Beelzebul?

**✠ AS THE CROWDS WERE INCREASING (LUKE 11:27-36)**

- Who is truly blessed according to Jesus (verse 28)?
- Verse 29 said that the crowds were increasing, but Jesus had some hard words for the people to consider as He called them a "wicked generation." What is the sign of the prophet Jonah and what does this have to do with Jesus?
- Why will the Queen of the South and the people of Nineveh rise up in judgment against the wicked Jews of Jesus' day?
- What connection do verses 33-36 have with the context of Jesus talking about this evil generation?

**✠ WOE TO YOU (LUKE 11:37-54)**

- This was not the first nor will it be the last time that Jesus was invited by one of the Jewish elitists for a meal so they could scrutinize Jesus' every move (Luke 7:36; 14:1).
- Jesus pronounced 3 woes upon the Pharisees and 3 upon the lawyers. Be ready to summarize and discuss each "woe" and why Jesus pronounced it upon them.

## **FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.**

### **Abel to Zechariah**

- ✚ Jesus said that all the blood from “Abel to Zechariah” would be charged against this generation of Jews that rejected Jesus and His message. The Hebrew Scriptures were arranged differently than our Old Testaments, with Genesis being the first book and Chronicles being the last book. Abel was the first person persecuted and killed for following God (Genesis 4) and Zechariah was the last one in recorded Hebrew Scripture who was martyred for God (2 Chronicles 24).
- ✚ This is a prophecy by Jesus that God will bring great wrath, vengeance and judgment upon Jerusalem for the Jews’ historic and continual rejection of God, His message and His messengers (Exodus 32:9; 2 Chronicles 36:15-16; Isaiah 63:10; Acts 7:51-53; Romans 10:21).

### **This generation**

- ✚ Jesus said that all the righteous blood that was shed by the Jews would be required of this generation. This is important because Jesus’ words, especially in Matthew 24 are twisted by many and taken out of context to discuss the end of the world when Jesus was prophesying the destruction of Jerusalem. When you look at how Jesus used the word “generation” in these texts you will see that Jesus was talking about the people of His day (Matthew 23:31-39; 24:34).
- ✚ Notice also here in chapter 11 that Jesus spoke of the generation of Jews living in His day that would be judged by the Queen of the South and the people of Nineveh on Judgment Day.

# Lesson 13 – Beware and Be Ready

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Read Luke 12 and answer these summary questions.

**✚ BEWARE OF THE LEAVEN OF THE PHARISEES (LUKE 12:1-12)**

- How did Luke describe the extent of the crowds in verse 1?
- What is the leaven of the Pharisees?
- What encouragement and warnings are in vs. 1-12 regarding preaching and confessing Jesus before men?

**✚ BEWARE OF COVETOUSNESS (LUKE 12:13-21)**

- What did a person in the crowd try to tell Jesus to do? What warning of Jesus followed that person's demand?
- Be ready to explain meaning of the parable of the rich fool.

**✚ FEAR NOT LITTLE FLOCK (LUKE 12:22-34)**

- Verse 22 begins with "For this reason..." How does verse 22-34 connect very well with the previous teaching about covetousness? When we are worried about the basic needs of this world, what are we saying to God? Where is our heart?
- Explain the phrase "money belts which do not wear out" (vs. 33).

**✚ BE READY! (LUKE 12:35-40)**

- What analogies are used by Jesus in this section to talk about readiness?

**✚ ARE YOU TALKING TO US OR TO EVERYONE? (LUKE 12:41-48)**

- Peter wondered at this point who Jesus was addressing. Jesus, in the Master Teacher's way, indicated that He was talking to everyone.
- Who was beaten with many stripes (lashes), according to Jesus?
- **Note:** Students of the Bible will sometimes get hung up here wondering if there are "levels" of punishment in hell. Remember that Jesus in this context is focused on a greater accountability to those who have been given much (as an answer to Peter's question). Consider that there is no such thing in the Bible as "Hell-Lite." Being separated from God and all His blessings eternally can in no way be minimized.

✠ **BUT I HAVE A BAPTISM TO UNDERGO (LUKE 12:49-53)**

- What was “distressing” Jesus at this point? What “baptism” did He have to undergo?
- If Jesus is called the “Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6) why did He say here that He did not come to bring peace on earth?

✠ **AND HE WAS ALSO SAYING TO THE CROWDS (LUKE 12:54-59)**

- Luke 12 begins and ends with Jesus preaching about hypocrisy. He began in chapter 12 talking about the Pharisees and is now speaking to the crowds about hypocrisy. Be ready to discuss the two areas in which He expected them to “judge” or “discern.”
  - Discerning the times (vs. 54-56).
  - Judging what is right (vs. 57-59).

## **FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.**

### **Blaspheming against the Holy Spirit**

- ✠ Why did Jesus say you can be forgiven for speaking against Him (the Son of Man) but not if you blaspheme against the Holy Spirit?
- It will be helpful to look at terms in Scripture like “**do not grieve the Holy Spirit,**” or “**resist the Holy Spirit**” (Acts 7:51; Ephesians 4:30; Nehemiah 9:30; Isaiah 63:10; 1 Thessalonians 5:19-20). Jesus was not talking about a series of words that I say for which I can never be forgiven, but rather He is teaching that if I reject the saving power and words of God given by the Holy Spirit, I can never receive forgiveness.
  - For example, Saul (Paul) was a blasphemer (1 Timothy 1:12-15) who did many things contrary to the name of Jesus (Acts 26:9-11), but when he humbled himself and accepted the words given through the Holy Spirit which Ananias preached to him, he was saved and forgiven. If you sin willfully (Hebrews 10:26) by abandoning Christ and “**insulting the Spirit of Grace**” (Hebrews 10:29), then you have no forgiveness of sins because you rejected the very Way to be saved. You are, as John wrote, sinning a sin unto death (1 John 5:16-17). If you reject God’s way, there is no other way.

### **The Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say.**

- ✠ Does this promise of Jesus apply to all Christians?

# Lesson 14 – Repent or Perish

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Read Luke 13 and answer these summary questions.

**✚ WERE THEY WORSE SINNERS? (LUKE 13:1-9)**

- What two current events did Jesus use to illustrate the need for all to repent?
  
  
  
  
  
- Explain the parable that Jesus taught in verses 6-9 and how it shows the longsuffering nature of God while at the same time shows that He expects fruit to be produced (This can be applied at an individual level, but also to the situation that Jesus will address considering the city of Jerusalem in verses 34-35).

**✚ WOMAN YOU ARE LOOSED FROM YOUR INFIRMITY (LUKE 13:10-17)**

- Here is another confrontation regarding the Sabbath. Describe the physical condition of this woman, how long she had this sickness, and who was behind the sickness.
  
  
  
  
- How did Jesus put the ruler of the synagogue (and his fellows) to shame by his teaching? (Notice that he called the woman up in front of everyone as he taught and worked this miracle!)

**✚ TWO PARABLES ON THE KINGDOM OF GOD (LUKE 13:18-21)**

- In what way is the Kingdom of God like a mustard seed?
  
  
  
- How is the Kingdom of God like leaven? Usually “leaven” is used in Scripture with a connotation to refer to an evil influence, but not here.

**✚ ARE THERE FEW WHO ARE SAVED? (LUKE 13:22-30)**

- Jesus is journeying toward Jerusalem as He prepares to give His life for our sins, but it is not His hour yet, there is much to say and do before the cross.
  
  
  
- What is Jesus’ answer to this very important question, “Are there few who are saved?”
  
  
  
- Who are those who will be thrust out of the kingdom? Who are those who will be sitting down with Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and the prophets? Jesus taught this same concept just after He saw the faith of the Roman Centurion (Matthew 8:10-12).

**✚ GO TELL THAT FOX (LUKE 13:31-33)**

- Be ready to explain what Jesus said to the Pharisees in response to Herod seeking to kill Him. Why would it not be fitting for Jesus to perish outside of Jerusalem?
- Was it disrespectful for Jesus to call Herod a “fox”?

**✚ O JERUSALEM, JERUSALEM! (LUKE 13:34-35)**

- Why was Jesus so sad about Jerusalem? What was His desire for them?
- Jesus is forecasting the coming destruction of Jerusalem as a just punishment for the Jews’ continued rejection of God, His prophets, His law, and now His only Son. This will occur at the hands of the Romans in AD 70.

**FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.**

**Pontius Pilate**

- ✚** Luke said that Pontius Pilate mingled the blood of certain Galileans with the blood sacrifices of the Jews, thus defiling their offerings and desecrating the temple. See if you can find any more information about this event that Luke recorded here in chapter 13.

**Were they worse sinners because they suffered such things?**

- ✚** Why do people suffer? The people of Jesus’ day (and today) will sometimes conclude that whenever a person suffers it is because of his own personal sins and that God is punishing him for those sins. What does the Bible say about this?

# Lesson 15 – You Cannot Be My Disciple

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Read Luke 14 and answer these summary questions.

✚ **HARD LESSONS AT DINNERTIME (LUKE 14:1-24)**

- Jesus once again accepted an invitation to dinner. Here is another occasion when the people who invited Jesus did so out of *hostility*, not *hospitality*.
- What two questions did Jesus ask the Pharisees He healed the man with dropsy? Jesus put them to shame and silenced them at the same time.
- What did Jesus say to those who were picking the best seats?
- Who should we invite to our tables and why, according to Jesus (vs. 12)? Notice that Jesus said this to his dinner host! Maybe Jesus wasn't going to get dessert than night!
- Jesus' parable of the great supper serves as an answer to the person's statement at the dinner table that those who sit at the table in the kingdom of God are "blessed."
  - **But they all with one accord began to make excuses.** Be ready to discuss the excuses that were made in this parable and how those excuses are still used.
    - **Property, material things (vs. 18)**
    - **Income, career, livelihood (vs. 19)**
    - **Relationships (vs. 20)**
    - **Note:** All those in the world who do not come to Jesus are *unified with one accord in this one thing* – There is something or someone more important to them than Jesus.
  - Who was invited and compelled to come to the feast, since those originally invited (meaning the Jews in this parable) did not receive the invitation?

“For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste of my dinner.”  
Luke 14:24

✚ **YOU CANNOT BE MY DISCIPLE (LUKE 14:25-35)**

- Define the word “disciple.”
  
- 3 Times Jesus said, **“You cannot be My disciple”** to the great crowds who were following Him (vs. 26,27,33). Be ready to discuss what attitudes will prevent us from being Jesus’ disciple. These are hard truths, but we must embrace them and live them if we wish to follow Jesus to heaven.

- Why did Jesus start talking about salt? How are we like salt? What is the purpose of salt?

**“He who  
has ears to  
hear, let  
him hear!”**

**FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME  
BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.**

**Dropsy**

- ✚ What is dropsy? You might also search for the term “edema.”

# Lesson 16 – Parables of Lost Things

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Read Luke 15-16 and answer these summary questions.

**✠ THE CONTEXT THAT EXPLAINS THE FOLLOWING PARABLES OF JESUS (LUKE 15:1-2).**

- Who drew near to listen to Jesus and what did the Pharisees and scribes say as they complained and grumbled about Jesus?
  
- There are two very distinct groups of people that are clearly revealed in the life and ministry of Jesus: the children of God and the children of the Devil. There has been division and strife between these two families since the Garden of Eden when God promised it (**Genesis 3:15**). Just like Cain killed Abel, the Jewish leadership will do everything in their power to oppose God even through killing His only Son.

**✠ PARABLES OF LOST THINGS (LUKE 15:3-32)**

- How did Jesus illustrate in all three parables in chapter 15 that God and the angels of heaven rejoice over a sinner who repents and comes home to God?
  
- Define the word “prodigal.” Why do people call Luke 15:11-32 the parable of the “prodigal son?”
  
- In the parable of the man with two sons, what do we learn about:
  - Forgiveness, mercy and grace from the father in the story?
  
  - The life of sin and repentance from the younger son in the story?
  
  - Self-righteousness from the older brother in the story?

**✠ PARABLE OF THE UNJUST STEWARD (LUKE 16:1-13)**

- Define the word “steward.”
  
- How did the steward react to the prospect of getting kicked out of his job? How did he try to go around and save his skin?
  
- In the parable the owner/master commends the unjust steward for his shrewdness, which is how the world works. Jesus is not commending this kind of attitude, but He is

teaching that the wicked people many times have more zeal in doing evil than God's people have for doing good.

- In what ways should we make friends of the things (money, material things) of this world? In other words, how can we use money and material things for our earthly benefit and for God's glory?
- Be ready to explain Luke 16:10-12 in class.

#### **✚ CONNECTING THE STEWARD AND THE RICH MAN (LUKE 16:14-18).**

- What did Luke say that the Pharisees loved? How did they respond to the parable of the unjust steward?
- Jesus responded to the Pharisees with these comments:
  - God knows their hearts.
  - The kingdom was prophesied, John pronounced its imminent arrival, and people are pressing into the kingdom to follow Jesus.
  - Not the smallest detail of the Law of Moses will pass away until it is fulfilled in Jesus Christ sitting on the throne of His kingdom.
  - They showed their blatant disregard for God and His laws in how they viewed and treated marriage.
  - If the Pharisees don't humble themselves and accept Jesus, they will be cast out and will face the wrath of God.

#### **✚ PARABLE OF THE RICH MAN AND THE LAZARUS (LUKE 16:19-31)**

- Without getting hung up on arguments about details and specifics of the realm of the dead, we should focus on what the real lesson Jesus is teaching in this parable.
  - Describe the living conditions for the rich man and Lazarus before and after they died according to Jesus.
  - What requests did the rich man make of Abraham? How did Abraham respond to the rich man's requests?
- The real lesson of this story is that if the Jews didn't listen to Moses and the Prophets, would they never come to repentance and follow God, even if Jesus rose from the dead (See also John 5:38-40,47-49).

## **FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.**

### **Hades**

- ✚ Study the word Hades (or Sheol in the Old Testament) to get a better understanding of the realm of the dead.

# Lesson 17 – The Kingdom is in Your Midst

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Read Luke 17 and answer these summary questions.

✚ FAITH AND FORGIVENESS (LUKE 17:1-10).

- Why do you think the apostles responded with the words, “Lord, increase our faith” after what Jesus said in verses 1-4?
  
- What does my ability to forgive have to do with how much faith I have?
  
- Why did Jesus say we should call ourselves “unprofitable servants”?
  
- **Note:** When we forgive a brother, even 7 times in a day, we still are unprofitable servants; we have only done our duty. When are tempted to think that our forgiving others is some remarkable act that is worthy of the praise of God and others, we must call to mind that it is simply our duty as slaves of Jesus, the Master who released us from all our debts owed to Him.

*Now it happened as He went to Jerusalem that He passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee (Luke 17:11).*

✚ WERE THERE NOT TEN CLEANSED? BUT WHERE ARE THE NINE? (LUKE 17:12-19)

- 10 men had leprosy, 10 men cried to Jesus for mercy, and 10 men were healed. However, only the **Samaritan** leper (the outcast of outcasts!) came back to give glory to God and thank Jesus. Any lessons for us?
  
- 9 out of 10 lepers did not say, “Thank you” to Jesus.
  - If we are looking for people to give us a parade of “Thank you’s” for everything we do, what lesson can we learn from what Jesus experienced here?
  
  
  - On the other hand, why is it important for us to **verbalize** our gratitude to God and to others (Hebrews 13:15)?

✚ **WHEN THE SON OF MAN IS REVEALED (LUKE 17:20-37).**

- **Prophecies of the Messiah's death, the kingdom coming, and the destruction of Jerusalem.** In Daniel 9:20-27, the angel Gabriel explained to Daniel that the Messiah would be "cut off" (crucified) and that shortly after that time the "prince who is to come" (Rome) would come and destroy city (Jerusalem) and the sanctuary (the temple). Jesus is showing that these events are about to take place (Luke 17:25-26). Jesus will share more detailed information about the coming destruction of Jerusalem later in Luke.
  - **This language Jesus used in Luke 17:20-37 is very similar to what He used in Matthew 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21 when prophesying the destruction of Jerusalem.**
  
- Where is the kingdom of God, according to Jesus (vs. 21; see also John 18:36)?
  
  
- To which Old Testament events did Jesus compare the coming destruction of Jerusalem (see Luke 17:26,29)?
  - Why did Jesus say, "**Remember Lot's wife?**"
  
  
- If Jesus was talking here about the end of the world and Judgment Day, what good would it do to run and get out of town quickly?

Luke 21:20-24

"But **when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies**, then recognize that her desolation is near. Then those who are in **Judea must flee to the mountains**, and those who are in the midst of the city must leave, and those who are in the country must not enter the city; **because these are days of vengeance, so that all things which are written will be FULFILLED.**

**Compare this to its parallel account in Matthew 24:15-22**

**FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.**

**The Eagles or Vultures**

- ✚ Explain the phrase, "Where the body is, there also the vultures will be gathered" (Luke 17:37).

# Lesson 18 – Who Then Can Be Saved?

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Read Luke 18 and answer these summary questions.

**✠ TWO PARABLES ON PRAYER (LUKE 18:1-14)**

- What lessons in *persistence in prayer* are taught by Jesus' parable of the widow?
- What lessons in *humility in prayer* are taught by Jesus' parable of the two men who went up to the temple to pray?
- Be ready to discuss Jesus' question in Luke 18:8.

**✠ A SERMON TAUGHT FROM CHILDREN (LUKE 18:15-17)**

- Why were people bringing their babies to Jesus? Mark 10:14 noted that Jesus was "greatly displeased" with the disciples because they rebuked those who brought the children.
- What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God like a child?

**✠ WHO THEN CAN BE SAVED? (LUKE 18:18-30)**

- Describe the interaction between the rich young ruler and Jesus. What did the young ruler want to know, and how did Jesus give him something he did not want to hear?
- Read Mark's account of this event, specifically Mark 10:24. It is those who "trust in riches" who cannot enter God's kingdom. You don't have to be "rich" to trust in riches.
- Consider the question His disciples asked, "Who then can be saved?" What did Jesus have to say about this?
- What reward will be given to those who have left all to follow Jesus?

**✚ THEY UNDERSTOOD NONE OF THESE THINGS (LUKE 18:31-34)**

- What specific things did Jesus say would happen to Him in these verses?
  
- Why did the disciples not understand this? We saw this before in Luke 9:45.

**✚ A BLIND MAN SAT BY THE ROAD AND HE CRIED (LUKE 18:35-43).**

- What do we learn about faith from this blind man near Jericho? Mark 10 offers some more valuable insight into this account.
  
- What do we learn about people (ourselves) from those who were telling this blind man to be quiet?
  
- What question did Jesus ask of the blind man in Luke 18:41? Notice that in Mark chapter 10, Jesus actually presented that very question twice, once to the blind man (Mark 10:51) and once to James and John (Mark 10:35-37). You can see the faith and humility in the answer of the blind man and a different mindset from James and John.

**FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO DIG DEEPER, FIND SOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THESE TOPICS.**

**Why do you call Me good? No one is good except God alone.**

- ✚** Did Jesus mean here that the rich young ruler should not call Him good because only God is good? Is Jesus claiming here that He is not God?

# Lesson 19 – The Last Week Begins

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Read Luke 19 and answer these summary questions.

✚ ZACCHAEUS WAS A WEE LITTLE MAN (LUKE 19:1-10)

- In which city did this encounter take place?
- What do we learn from Zacchaeus about the right attitudes in coming to Jesus?
- **“For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost”** (Luke 19:10). Here is our theme verse for this study on Luke. How did Jesus show His heart for saving the lost in this situation with Zacchaeus?

When Jesus enters into Jerusalem in Luke 19, it begins the final week leading up to His death on the cross. A great deal of writing in the 4 Gospels is devoted to this last week.

✚ BRING THEM HERE AND SLAY THEM IN MY PRESENCE (LUKE 19:11-27)

- “While they were listening to these things, Jesus went on to tell a parable, **because** He was near Jerusalem, and **they supposed** that the kingdom of God was going to appear immediately” (Luke 19:11).
- What are some lessons we can draw from the parable of the minas? For the sake of comparison, show the similarities and differences between this parable and the parable of the talents in Matthew 25.
- **Notice verses 14 and 27 of Luke 19.** We can see once again that Jesus is pronouncing a judgment upon Jerusalem (and most Jews) for its rejection of Jesus as the Messiah. He will say more as He draws near to Jerusalem (vs. 41-44).

✚ JESUS WEPT OVER JERUSALEM (LUKE 19:28-48)

- Look on a map of Palestine in the times of Jesus and note the direction Jesus took as He entered into Jerusalem.
- Describe the scene of Jesus’ entrance into Jerusalem. What did Jesus ride? How did the disciples and the crowd respond? What did the Jewish leadership say?
- What did Jesus say in Luke 19:41-44 about Jerusalem? Why was He so sad? What was going to happen to Jerusalem?
- What did Jesus say about what the Jewish leaders were doing in the temple as He drove them out of it (Luke 19:45-46)?

*Luke 19:47-48 – And He was teaching daily in the temple; but the chief priests and the scribes and the leading men among the people were trying to destroy Him, and they could not find anything that they might do, for all the people were hanging on to every word He said.*

# Lesson 20 – That They Might Seize on His Words

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Read Luke 20 and answer these summary questions.

*Consider chapter 20 as a whole and look at how the character and mindset of the Jewish leadership is revealed in just one chapter. Also note how Jesus confounds them and silences them every single time. It is no surprise that Jesus said in the last verse that they will receive “greater condemnation.”*

**✚ BY WHAT AUTHORITY? (LUKE 20:1-8)**

- How did Jesus handle the challenge against His authority?
- What kept the Jewish leaders from answering Jesus’ question? Refer back to Luke 7:29-30 to see how Luke contrasted two very different responses to John the Baptist.

**✚ PARABLE OF THE WICKED VINEDRESSERS (LUKE 20:9-19)**

- Be ready to discuss / explain the parable of the wicked vinedressers and what connection it has to the Jews and Jesus.
- Which prophecy was fulfilled in the rejection of Christ by the Jewish leaders?
- Did the Jewish leaders clearly understand this parable and what it meant (vs. 19)?

**✚ IS IT LAWFUL TO PAY TAXES? (LUKE 20:20-26)**

- Why would they try to paint Jesus into a corner about paying taxes to Caesar? It would be good to look into the religious and political differences between the Jewish leadership to show that they had very different views on some of the topics about which they challenged Jesus.

**Luke 20:20**

*So they watched Him, and sent spies who pretended to be righteous, that they might seize on His words, in order to deliver Him to the power and the authority of the governor.*

- Explain how Jesus masterfully answered their tax question.

✚ **WHOSE WIFE DID SHE BECOME IN THE RESURRECTION? (LUKE 20:27-40)**

- What was the hypothetical situation that the Sadducees worked up to prove that there could be no resurrection?
- Can you think of examples of how people still try to use hypothetical situations today in an attempt to make God's word say what it doesn't say?
- What do we learn about marriage in the afterlife from what Jesus said here?
- How did Jesus use God's statement to Moses in Exodus 3 to show that there is indeed a resurrection of the dead?
- **Note:** Jesus used a 1500 year old passage, and trusted so much in its accurate transmission and translation that He based His whole argument on a verb tense.

***"But after that they dared not question Him anymore."***

✚ **WHY DOES DAVID CALL THE CHRIST "LORD"? (LUKE 20:41-44)**

- Jesus has already used Exodus and said clearly that Moses wrote it, and in this section of Luke 20 He quoted from Psalms 110 and said that David wrote it.
- Be ready to discuss / explain how Jesus used David's prophecy of the Christ in Psalm 110:1. How can Christ be both the **Son** of David and the **Lord** of David at the same time?
- Notice in Mark's account that while He confounded the Jewish leadership, the common people were listening to Him and understanding His teaching (Mark 12:37).

✚ **BEWARE OF THE SCRIBES (LUKE 20:45-47)**

- Did Jesus speak this condemnation privately?
- A longer account of this condemnation of the Jewish leadership by Jesus is recorded in Matthew 23.

# Lesson 21 – Destruction of Jerusalem

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Read Luke 21 and answer these summary questions.

**✚ THE POOR WIDOW GAVE ALL (LUKE 21:1-4)**

- What valuable lessons on giving were demonstrated by this widow at the temple?

**✚ NOT ONE STONE LEFT UPON ANOTHER (LUKE 21:5-7)**

- As His disciples were showing Him the beauty and magnificence of Herod's temple, what did Jesus say about the stones of the temple?

- What questions did the disciples ask Jesus in response to His statement of prophecy?

**✚ SIGNS OF THE COMING DESTRUCTION (LUKE 21:8-36)**

- It would be helpful:
  - To review the various places in Luke prior to chapter 21 where Jesus foretold either directly or by parable that the city of Jerusalem would be destroyed because of her continual rejection of God and His messengers. Jesus called these days the "days of vengeance" (Luke 21:22).
  - To compare Luke 21 with Matthew 24 and Luke 13.
- Write down the various signs that Jesus gave which would precede the destruction of Jerusalem.
  - Vs. 8
  - Vs. 9-10
  - Vs. 11
  - Vs. 12
  - Vs. 16-17
  - Vs. 20

## This Generation

Luke 21:32 – *"Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place."*

*"In the Old Testament a generation was reckoned as forty years...  
From Robertson's Word Pictures*

- Who will be working through His disciples as they faced this persecution (21: 13-15)?
  
- When His disciples saw these signs what were they to do (21:20-28)?
  
- Here are some keys that this passage is primarily talking about the destruction of Jerusalem, not the end of the world:
  - ***“When you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies.”*** This was a literal fulfillment which they would see in their lifetime as the Romans came and surrounded Jerusalem. This was a sign for the Christians to flee.
  - ***“Those in Judea flee to the mountains.”*** This is a local judgment, not the final judgment, because on the final Day of Judgment, there is no place to which we can flee to escape that Day.
  - ***“This generation will by no means pass away till all things take place.”*** Jesus had been clearly saying repeatedly through His ministry that great wrath would be poured out upon the Jews living in His day because of their rejection of Him.

#### ✚ THE LAST WEEK...A FULL SCHEDULE (LUKE 21:37-38)

- How and where did Jesus spend his days and nights during this last week?

# Lesson 22 – Not My Will But Yours Be Done

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Read Luke 22 and answer these summary questions.

**✚ SATAN ENTERED JUDAS (LUKE 22:1-6)**

- What does it mean that the Devil entered Judas?
  
- What was the agreement between Judas and the Jewish leadership?

**✚ THE PASSOVER FEAST (LUKE 22:7-20)**

- What is the connection between Jesus' death on the cross and the Passover?
  
- Be ready to discuss Lord's Supper which Jesus instituted on that Passover night, and why this memorial is so important for Christians.

**✚ PREDICTION OF JUDAS' BETRAYAL AND PETER'S DENIAL (LUKE 22:21-38)**

- Why do you think the prophecy of Judas' betrayal led into a discussion of who was the greatest disciple?
  
- Describe the conversation that Jesus had with Peter about Peter's coming denial.

**✚ JESUS PRAYED AND YIELDED TO THE FATHER'S WILL (LUKE 22:39-46)**

- Describe the agony of Jesus as He prays to the Father to take the cup of the cross away from Him.
  
- Who was there to strengthen Jesus (vs. 43)?

**✚ JESUS IS ARRESTED (LUKE 22:47-53)**

- How is the love and mercy of Jesus displayed while being arrested unjustly?

**✚ JESUS TRIED BY JEWISH COUNCIL AND PETER DENIES HIM (LUKE 22:54-71)**

- Be ready to discuss the scene here as Peter went from confidently denying that he would deny Jesus to confidently denying Jesus.
  
- How is the character and heart of Peter revealed in verse 62?
  
- Describe the brutal and unjust way that Jesus is treated by the Jewish council.
  
- What did Jesus say at the end of chapter 22 that really set off the council?

# Lesson 23 – Father Forgive Them

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Read Luke 23 and answer these summary questions.

*Jesus prophesied that these things would be done to Him (Luke 18:31-33; Isaiah 50:6).*

**Luke 23:3**

So Pilate asked Him, saying, “Are You the King of the Jews?” And He answered him and said, “It is as you say.”

✚ **JESUS AND PILATE, THE FIRST TIME (LUKE 23:1-6)**

- Do some research on Pontius Pilate. Various Bible dictionaries and online sources will have some helpful information.
- What accusations did the Jewish council bring to Pilate against Jesus? What did Pilate think of their accusations?

✚ **PILATE SENT JESUS TO HEROD (LUKE 23:7-12)**

- This is the same Herod who had John the Baptist beheaded. This was Herod the “Tetrarch” whose jurisdiction included Galilee. Why was Herod glad to see Jesus?
- How was Jesus treated by Herod’s men?
- What did Jesus say to Herod?
- ***Herod and Pilate became friends that day.*** Read Acts 4:23-28 and see that the apostles later understood that Herod and Pilate fulfilled the prophecy of Psalm 2 when they came together with the Gentiles and Jews to kill Jesus.

✚ **JESUS AND PILATE, THE SECOND TIME (LUKE 23:13-25)**

- Who was Barabbas and for what crimes had he been in prison?
- Luke twice pointed out that Pilate wanted to “punish and release” Jesus (Luke 23:16,22). John wrote that Pilate had Jesus “scourged” (John 19:1), and then afterward thought it would satisfy the crowd so that he could release Jesus (John 19:12).
  - Do some research into how the Romans performed a scourging. Imagine how Jesus looked like physically as He was presented to the crowd after His scourging. They still cried out saying, “Crucify Him!”
- Read Acts 3:13-17. What did Peter and John have to say to the Jewish crowds at the temple over a month later about what they did to Jesus?

*“And he released the man they were asking for who had been thrown into prison for insurrection and murder, but he delivered Jesus to their will” (Luke 23:25).*

**✚ LET HIM DENY HIMSELF AND TAKE UP HIS CROSS (LUKE 23:26-31)**

- Why do you think the Romans would have to “force” a man to carry Jesus’ cross? How did people of that day view a crucified man?
- **Note:** John 19:17 states that Jesus started out “bearing His own cross.” He started out carrying His own cross, but apparently He quickly became physically unable to bear that load and now Simon of Cyrene is forced to carry it for Him. Remember that He has been scourged and beaten repeatedly. The loss of blood / fluids and the physical agony of having His back completely shredded from the scourging naturally explain why He was unable to carry that cross.
- What did Jesus say to the women who mourned and lamented for Him? Be ready to discuss the meaning of verse 31.

**✚ “SAVE YOURSELF AND US!” (LUKE 23:32-43)**

- Look up the terms “Golgotha” and “Calvary” to find their meanings.
- Do research on what happened during a Roman crucifixion.
- Various people mocked Jesus as He suffered on the cross. Write down the different things that were said and done in this chapter to mock Jesus.
- What things did Jesus say in this chapter that shows the very heart of God?
- What are some lessons we can learn from the character of the thief/criminal who begged for mercy from Jesus?

**✚ “INTO YOUR HANDS I COMMIT MY SPIRIT” (LUKE 23:44-56)**

- List two ominous things that occurred in verses 44-45.
- Do some comparison of the gospel accounts to see what time of day Jesus was crucified and what time of day He died.
- What impact did these events have upon the Roman centurion in charge of overseeing Jesus’ execution?
- Who was at a distance watching these events (vs. 49)? Consult the other 3 Gospel accounts to find names for some of these people.
- Who was Joseph of Arimathea and what do we learn about him from this passage? Which other member of the Council also helped Joseph bury Jesus (John 19:39)?
- What did the women do after observing where Jesus’ body was laid (vs. 55-56)?

Look through Luke 23 and find prophecies that are fulfilled and Old Testament Scripture that is quoted in Luke 23.

# Lesson 24 – The Lord is Risen Indeed!

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Read Luke 24 and answer these summary questions.

✠ THE WOMEN AT THE TOMB (LUKE 24:1-12)

- **1st Day of the Week.** Jesus rose from the dead on a Sunday. What other passages in Scripture show that the 1st Day of the week is a very significant day for Christians?
- Why were the women coming to the tomb?
- Describe the scene of the angels appearing to the women and what they said to them.
- List the names of the women given in Luke 24:10.
- How did the apostles receive the testimony of the women? What are some lessons we can learn from this?

Take time to read the resurrection accounts in the other Gospels as well as 1 Corinthians 15:1-9 to get a fuller picture of the number of times Jesus appeared to various people after His resurrection.

✠ JESUS WITH THE TWO MEN ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS (LUKE 24:13-35)

- Emmaus was 7 miles from Jerusalem (Luke 24:13).
- One of these two men is specifically named by Luke. His name is \_\_\_\_\_.
- What do Mark 16:12 and Luke 24:16 indicate about the way He appeared to them?
- What is the state of these two men’s minds about the recent events in Jerusalem? Describe how they were “slow of heart” to believe (Luke 24:14-24).
- Summarize what Jesus taught them on that road to Emmaus (Luke 24:25-27).
- What had been going on in their hearts while Jesus was teaching them (Luke 24:32)?

**Just like the women, the two men go and report these things to the apostles.**

#### ✠ JESUS APPEARS TO HIS APOSTLES (LUKE 24:36-49)

- **Peace be to you.** Jesus appeared suddenly in the disciples' midst. What was their reaction at first? How did Jesus prove that He had "flesh and bones?"
- **Law, Psalms and Prophets.** Jesus summarized the Old Testament in these three categories. What did Jesus say that the "Law, Psalms, and Prophets" prophesied concerning Him?
- Why were the apostles to wait in Jerusalem? What was the "Promise of the Father" that Jesus was going to send to the apostles?

"Many infallible (convincing) proofs" (Acts 1:3).

"We ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead" (Acts 10:41).

"Then He said to Thomas, 'Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing'" (John 20:27).

"What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life..." (1 John 1:1).

#### ✠ JESUS ASCENDS INTO HEAVEN (LUKE 24:50-53)

- Jesus was blessing them and they were worshipping Him as He ascended into heaven. What an amazing picture! When Jesus returns, we will be worshipping Him and He will be blessing us by taking us into heaven!
- In the very last two verses of Luke, where are the apostles and what are they doing?
- We see the last few verses of Luke overlapping with the first few verses of Acts 1, which is expected since Acts 1 is the 2<sup>nd</sup> volume/letter written by Luke to Theophilus.

*The theme of the book of Luke for this class has been Luke 19:10 which says, "For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost." We now will see the apostles take up with that very mindset as they go out to spread the gospel of Jesus to the whole world.*

# Charts and Articles Section



# WHY FOUR GOSPELS?

	<b>Matthew</b>	<b>Mark</b>	<b>Luke</b>	<b>John</b>
<b>Author</b>	Matthew (Levi) was a Jewish man who worked as a tax collector for the Roman government	Mark was a close companion of the apostle Peter.	Luke was a Gentile physician who traveled with the apostle Paul	John was one of the closest friends of Jesus, self-described as “the disciple whom Jesus loved”
<b>Audience</b>	Israel	Possibly a Roman audience	Theophilus, and maybe all Gentiles (Greeks)	General audience
<b>Key words and concepts</b>	<p>“Fulfilled” and “Kingdom”</p> <p>Over 40 prophecies mentioned by Matthew as having been fulfilled</p> <p>Begins his account with a genealogy to prove lineage of Jesus as “the Son of David, the Son of Abraham”</p>	<p>“Immediately”</p> <p>Also several explanations of Aramaic phrases used by Jesus</p> <p>High concentration of miracles, only 4 parables</p>	<p>Genealogy back to Adam, not Abraham.</p> <p>Written from the perspective of a physician (Luke 5:12; 6:6; 22:24)</p> <p>More emphasis given to women</p>	<p>The “I AM” statements of Jesus which are tied to certain miraculous signs, thus confirming the claim of Jesus to be deity</p> <p>Words like “witness,” “testimony,” and “testify” are used by John as he presents his case for Jesus as God, the “Word”</p>
<b>Purpose</b>	Demonstrating to Jews that Jesus is the Christ (Messiah, King), the fulfillment of all prophecy	Testifying to the miraculous power of Jesus directly tied to His ability to save mankind	Luke set out to write an orderly account of the life of Jesus (Luke 1:1-4)	John wrote his words so that we might “believe” in Jesus as the “Son of God” and have life (John 20:30-31)
<b>Jesus</b>	“Messiah”	“Servant”	“Son of Man”	“Son of God”

*“By the Mouth of two or three witnesses, every word shall be established” (Matthew 18:16).*

# MESSIANIC PROPHECIES & THEIR FULFILLMENT

*“That all things must be fulfilled...” (Luke 24:44)*

Prophecy	OT Reference	NT Reference
Seed of woman, crush devil	Genesis 3:15	Galatians 4:4; Hebrews 2:14-15
Seed of Abraham, bless all nations	Genesis 22:18	Matthew 1:1; Acts 7:5; Galatians 3:16
Seed of Judah, rule nations	Genesis 49:10	Hebrews 7:14; Revelation 5:5
Prophet like Moses	Deuteronomy 18:15-19	Luke 7:16; 24:19; John 6:14; Acts 3:22-23
Seed of David on throne forever	2 Samuel 7:12-13	Matthew 1:1, 6; Luke 1:32; Acts 2:29-36
Resurrection from dead	Psalms 16:8-10; 49:15	Acts 2:27; 13:35
Felt forsaken by God	Psalms 22:1	Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34
Hands and feet pierced	Psalms 22:16	Matthew 27:31; John 20:24-29
Soldiers cast lots for coat	Psalms 22:18	Matthew 27:35; Mark 15:20, 24; Luke 23:34
No bones broken	Psalms 34:20 (Exodus 12:46)	John 19:36
Friends stand afar off	Psalms 38:11; 88:18	Matthew 27:55; Mark 15:40; Luke 23:49
His ascension into heaven	Psalms 68:18; Daniel 7:13-14	Acts 1:9; Ephesians 4:8
Given gall and vinegar to drink	Psalms 69:21	Matthew 27:34, 48; Luke 23:36
Spoke in parables	Psalms 78:2	Matthew 13:34-35
David's Lord at God's right hand	Psalms 110:1	Matthew 22:41-46; Acts 7:56; Hebrews 1:13
A priest like Melchizedek	Psalms 110:4	Hebrews 5:6, 10; 6:20; 7:1-22; 8:1; 10:11-13
The Chief Cornerstone	Psalms 118:22-24	Matthew 21:42; Acts 4:11
Born of a virgin	Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:22-23; Luke 1:27-35
Immanuel, God with us	Isaiah 7:14; 8:8, 10	Matthew 1:21, 23; John 14:8-10; Colossians 2:9
Light out of darkness	Isaiah 9:1-2	Matthew 4:14-16; Luke 2:32
Spirit of the Lord on Him	Isaiah 11:2; 42:1	Matthew 3:16; Mark 1:10; Luke 3:22
The deaf hear; the blind see	Isaiah 29:18-19	Matthew 11:5; Mark 7:37
A forerunner, John the Baptist	Isaiah 40:3-5; Malachi 3:1; 4:5-6	Matthew 3:3; 11:10, 14; 17:10-12; Mark 1:2-3; Luke 1:17; 3:4-5; 7:27
A light to the Gentiles	Isaiah 49:6	Luke 2:32; Acts 13:47; 26:23
Silent when accused	Isaiah 53:7	Matthew 27:12-14; Luke 23:9; John 19:9
Buried with the rich	Isaiah 53:9	Matthew 27:57-60
Crucified with transgressors	Isaiah 53:12	Mark 15:27-28; Luke 22:37
Massacre of infants	Jeremiah 31:15	Matthew 2:17-18
Flight into Egypt	Hosea 11:1	Matthew 2:15
Sun darkened	Amos 8:9	Matthew 27:45; Luke 23:44-45
Kingdom established	Isaiah 2:1-4; Micah 4:1-8	Luke 1:33
Born in Bethlehem	Micah 5:1-5	Matthew 2:1-6; Luke 2:4, 10-11
Triumphal entry into Jerusalem	Zechariah 9:9-10	Matthew 21:4-5; Mark 11:1-10
Sold for 30 pieces of silver	Zechariah 11:12-13	Matthew 26:14-15
Money buys potter's field	Zechariah 11:12-13	Matthew 27:9-10; Acts 1:15-20
Piercing of His body	Zechariah 12:10	John 19:34, 37
Shepherd smitten – sheep scattered	Zechariah 13:1, 6-7	Matthew 26:31; John 16:32
Sun of righteousness	Malachi 4:2-3	Luke 1:78; Ephesians 5:14; 2 Peter 1:19

# TITLES FOR JESUS IN SCRIPTURE

Title	Old Testament	New Testament
<b>Alpha and Omega, First and the Last</b>	Isaiah 41:4; 44:6; 48:12	Revelation 1:17; 21:6
<b>Bread of Life</b>		John 6:35
<b>Chief Cornerstone</b>	Psalms 118:22-24	Ephesians 2:20
<b>Chief (and Good) Shepherd</b>	Psalms 23; Ezekiel 34:22-24	1 Peter 5:4; John 10:11; Hebrews 13:20
<b>Christ</b>		Matthew 16:16
<b>Firstborn from the dead</b>		Colossians 1:16-18
<b>High Priest</b>		Hebrews 3:1
<b>Holy One of God</b>		Mark 1:24
<b>I AM</b>	Exodus 3:13-15	John 8:58
<b>Immanuel</b>	Isaiah 7:14	Matthew 1:23
<b>Jesus</b>	Isaiah 12:1-2	Matthew 1:21
<b>King of Kings, Lord of Lords</b>		Revelation 19:16
<b>Lamb of God</b>		John 1:29
<b>Light of the World</b>		John 9:5
<b>Lord</b>		Romans 10:9
<b>Lord of Glory</b>		1 Corinthians 2:8
<b>Mediator</b>		1 Timothy 2:5
<b>Prince of Peace</b>	Isaiah 9:6	John 14:27; Acts 10:36; Romans 5:1; Ephesians 2:14; Colossians 1:20
<b>Prophet</b>	Deut. 18:18, 19	Luke 13:33
<b>Rabbi / Teacher</b>		John 3:2
<b>Redeemer</b>	Job 19:25-27; Isaiah 59:20	Galatians 4:4-5; Romans 11:26; Titus 2:13-14
<b>Savior</b>		John 4:42
<b>Son of David</b>	Psalms 89:3-4; 110:1	Matt. 9:27; Mark 12:35-37
<b>Son of God</b>	Psalms 2:7	John 20:31
<b>Son of Man</b>	Daniel 7:13-14	Matthew 20:28
<b>Word</b>		John 1:1

# MIRACLES OF JESUS

Miracle	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Turned water into wine				2:1-11
Healed the Nobleman's Son				4:46-54
Healed man with unclean spirit		1:21-28	4:31-37	
Miraculous catch of fish			5:4-11	
Various healings	4:23	1:32		
Healed a leper	8:1-4	1:40-45	5:12-15	
Healed the Centurion's servant	8:5-13		7:1-10	
Healed Peter's mother-in-law	8:14-15	1:29-31	4:38-39	
Stilled the storm on Sea of Galilee	8:23-27	4:35-41	8:22-25	
Healed demon-possessed men	8:28-34	5:1-20	8:26-39	
Healed a paralytic	9:1-8	2:1-12	5:17-26	
Healed a lame man at Bethesda				5:1-15
Raised son of widow of Nain			7:11-17	
Healed a woman with flow of blood	9:20-22	5:25-34	8:43-48	
Raised Jairus' daughter from dead	9:18-19,23-26	5:22-24, 35-43	8:40-42,49-56	
Healed two blind men	9:27-31			
Healed a demon-possessed man	9:32-33		11:14	
Healed a man with a withered hand	12:9-13	3:1-5	6:6-10	
Healed a blind and mute man	12:22-23			
Fed 5000 with 5 loaves, 2 fish	14:13-21	6:32-44	9:10-17	6:1-13
Walking on Sea of Galilee	14:22	6:45-51		6:16-21
Healed Syro-Phoenician's daughter	15:21-28	7:24-30		
Healed a deaf and mute man		7:31-37		
Fed 4000 with 7 loaves and a few fish	15:32-38	8:1-9		
Healed blind man at Bethesda		8:22-26		
Healed an epileptic / demon-possessed	17:14-21	9:14-29	9:37-42	
Healed a man born blind				9:1-41
Healed a woman bent over 18 years			13:10-17	
Healed a man with dropsy			14:1-4	
Raised Lazarus from the dead				11:1-44
Healed 10 lepers			17:11-19	
Healed 2 blind men (1 was Bartimaeus)	20:29-34	10:46-52	18:35-43	
Healed Malchus' ear			22:49-51	
Fig Tree Withered	21:18-22	11:12-14,20-25		
Miraculous catch of fish				21:1-11

***"And truly Jesus did many other signs..." (John 20:30-31; 21:25)***

## PRAYERS OF JESUS

<b>Luke 3:21</b>	Jesus prayed when He was baptized.
<b>Mark 1:35</b>	Jesus awoke a long while before daylight, and went out to a solitary place and prayed.
<b>Luke 5:16</b>	He often withdrew into the wilderness to pray.
<b>Luke 6:12</b>	He prayed all night before selecting His apostles.
<b>Luke 9:16; Matthew 14:19; Mark 6:41; John 6:11</b>	Jesus prayed to bless the meal before feeding the 5000 with 5 loaves and 2 fish.
<b>Matthew 14:23; Mark 6:46</b>	Jesus went up on a mountain by Himself to pray.
<b>Matthew 15:36; Mark 8:6-7</b>	Jesus prayed to bless the meal before feeding the 4000 with 7 loaves and a few small fish.
<b>Luke 9:18-20</b>	Jesus was alone praying in Caesarea Philippi, and then challenged His disciples about His identity.
<b>Luke 9:28-29</b>	Jesus prayed before He was transfigured.
<b>Luke 10:21</b>	Jesus thanked God for revealing His hidden truths to His disciples.
<b>Luke 11:1-4; Matthew 6:9-13</b>	Jesus taught His disciples to pray.
<b>Matthew 19:13-15</b>	Jesus laid His hands on the children and prayed.
<b>John 11:41-43</b>	Jesus prayed before raising Lazarus.
<b>John 12:27-28</b>	He prayed as He was troubled about His "hour."
<b>Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-23; Luke 22:19-20</b>	Jesus prayed before eating the Lord's Supper with His disciples the night before His crucifixion.
<b>Luke 22:31-32</b>	Jesus prayed for Peter's strength not to fail.
<b>John 14:16</b>	Jesus prayed for the Father to send the Helper.
<b>John 17</b>	Jesus prayed for Himself and His disciples after the Passover supper.
<b>Matthew 26:37-44; Mark 14:32-40; Luke 22:39-46</b>	Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane the night before His crucifixion.
<b>Luke 23:34</b>	Jesus prayed on the cross, "Father forgive them for they know not what they do."
<b>Matthew 27:46; Mark 15:34</b>	Jesus prayed on the cross, "My God, My God why have You forsaken Me?"
<b>Luke 23:46</b>	Jesus prayed on the cross, "Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit!"
<b>Luke 24:30</b>	He prayed before eating with the two men that He met on the road to Emmaus.

*"Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1)*

# PARABLES OF JESUS

Parable	Matthew	Mark	Luke	John
Wise and foolish builders	7:24-27		6:47-49	
Two debtors			7:41-47	
Sower, Seed, and Soils	13:3-9, 18-23	4:1-9, 14-20	8:5-8, 11-15	
Good Samaritan			10:30-37	
Friend at midnight			11:5-8	
Rich fool			12:16-21	
Servants waiting for master			12:35-40	
Barren fig tree			13:6-9	
Wheat and Tares	13:24-30, 36-43			
Growth of the seed		4:26-29		
Mustard seed	13:31-32	4:30-32	13:18-19	
Leaven	13:33		13:20-21	
Hidden treasure	13:44			
Pearl of great price	13:45-46			
Dragnet	13:47-50			
Unmerciful servant	18:23-35			
Good shepherd				10:1-16
Great supper			14:15-24	
Lost sheep	18:12-14		15:3-7	
Lost coin			15:8-10	
Lost son			15:11-32	
Shrewd manager			16:1-9	
Rich man and Lazarus			16:19-31	
Persistent widow			18:1-8	
Two men praying			18:9-14	
Laborers in the vineyard	20:1-16			
The minas			19:11-27	
Two sons	21:28-32			
Wicked vinedressers	21:33-44	12:1-12	20:9-18	
Marriage of the king's son	22:1-14			
Fig tree leafing	24:32	13:28-29		
Man taking a far journey		13:34-37		
Ten virgins	25:1-13			
Talents	25:14-30			
Sheep and goats	25:31-33			
Vine and branches				15:1-5

## “Who Is This Son of Man?”

By Kyle Pope

In John 12:34 the people ask the question in the title of this article—“who is this Son of Man?” They ask this, in response to Jesus’ promise that “the Son of Man” would be lifted up (12:34a). Students of the Bible today might well ask the same question when we encounter this important and unusual biblical phrase—“the Son of Man.”

There is much debate in the scholarly world about the meaning of the phrase “son of man” and how it would have been understood in the time of Jesus. There are times it can simply be a way of referring to a “man” (i.e. *a human being*). The Law of Moses declared, “God is not a man...nor a son of man” (Numbers 23:19). The Hebrew in this text is *ben-’adam* meaning “*son of man, son of Adam*.” *’Adamah* means “*earth or red earth*” (from which Adam’s name is drawn). This use is common even outside of Scripture. Ugaritic texts use the phrase *bn-’adm* to mean simply “man” (Mark S. Smith, “The ‘Son of Man’ in Ugaritic,” *CBQ* 45 (1983):59-60). The book of Job speaks of, “Man, who is a maggot...and the son of man who is a worm” (Job 25:4-6). The Psalmist asks, “What is man...and the son of man?” (Psalm 8:4; 144:3). The Hebrew in this passage is *ben-’anish* – a more generic word for man. Hebrews 2:6 quotes Psalm 8:4, which makes it clear that by New Testament times the phrase could still mean simply “man” or “human being.”

It is also clear that there can be times when the phrase takes on a more specialized meaning. There are times God may choose a “son of man.” In this sense, a “son of man” who is chosen may receive special blessings, revelations, or fulfill a special work for God. The Psalmist spoke of, “The son of man whom You made strong” (Psalm 80:17). The prophet Ezekiel was called “son of man” 93 times in the book (e.g. Ezekiel 2:1). The prophet Daniel was also referred to a few times in this way (e.g. Daniel 8:17). Daniel, however, reveals a very special use of this phrase in prophesying the coming of “One like the Son of Man” (Daniel 7:13-18). This phrase is the Aramaic *bar-’anash* – “son of man.” In this text, there is clearly a different sense. This One is said to be “*like the Son of Man*” (i.e. He bears the likeness of man). He is said to come on clouds (7:13) and possess an everlasting kingdom (7:14).

In the gospels “Son of Man” is the designation Jesus used to refer to Himself more than any other (Matthew – 30; Mark – 13; Luke – 26; John – 11 = 80 times in the Gospels). He asks, “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man am?” (Matthew 16:13). This has led some scholars to argue that the phrase is simply an idiom meaning “I” (Maurice Casey, “The Jackals and the Son of Man,” *JSNT* 23 (1985):3-22). However, it is clear that there is much more to it in Jesus’ use of the phrase. Jesus will associate the “Son of Man” with a number of divine attributes:

- The “Son of Man” is of heavenly origin (John 3:13).
- Jesus spoke of the “Son of Man ascending to where He was before” (John 6:62).
- Jesus spoke of the Son of Man having power to forgive sins (Matthew 9:6)—only God can forgive sins.
- The “Son of Man” is Lord of the Sabbath (Matthew 12:8)—God instituted the Sabbath.
- The “Son of Man” holds the right to command angels (Matthew 13:41; 16:27; 25:31; John 1:51); execute judgment (Matt. 16:27; Mark 8:38; John 5:27); bestow salvation (Matthew 18:11; John 6:27), and conquer death (Matthew 12:40; 17:9).

In addition to this Jesus spoke of the “Son of Man” as a King (Matthew 16:27-28; 19:28) “coming on the clouds” (Matthew 24:29-31; 26:64). In this Jesus clearly identified Himself with the specialized meaning of Daniel’s prophecy and offered Himself as its fulfillment. Outside of the Gospels, New Testament writers affirmed the recognition of this specialized designation of Jesus as “the Son of Man” (Acts 7:56) or “One like the Son of Man” (Rev. 1:12-18; 14:13-17) harvesting the earth.

It is in this specialized sense foretold in Daniel we must understand what is meant by Jesus’ identification as the “Son of Man.” He is Deity “*Like the Son of Man*.” He is King, Savior, and ultimately the Judge. We all can be assured that one day, we too will witness what Jesus promised Caiaphas: “hereafter, you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power and coming on the clouds of heaven” (Matt. 26:64).

# Son of Man in the Gospel of Luke

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## Here are the occasions where the term **Son of Man** is used in Luke.

- 5:24 – But that you may know that **the Son of Man** has power on earth to forgive sins...
- 6:5 – **The Son of Man** is also Lord of the Sabbath.
- 6:22 – Blessed are you when men hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and cast out your name as evil, for **the Son of Man's** sake.
- 7:34 – **The Son of Man** has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look, a glutton and a winebibber, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'
- 9:22 – **The Son of Man** must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day.
- 9:26 – For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him **the Son of Man** will be ashamed when He comes in His own glory, and in His Father's, and of the holy angels.
- 9:44 – Let these words sink down into your ears, for **the Son of Man** is about to be betrayed into the hands of men.
- 9:56 – For **the Son of Man** did not come to destroy men's lives but to save them.
- 9:58 – Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but **the Son of Man** has nowhere to lay His head.
- 11:30 – For as Jonah became a sign to the Ninevites, so also **the Son of Man** will be to this generation.
- 12:8 – Whoever confesses Me before men, him **the Son of Man** also will confess before the angels of God.
- 12:10 – And anyone who speaks a word against **the Son of Man**, it will be forgiven him; but to him who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven.
- 12:40 – Therefore you also be ready, for **the Son of Man** is coming at an hour you do not expect.
- 17:22 – The days will come when you will desire to see one of the days of **the Son of Man**, and you will not see it.
- 17:24 – For as the lightning that flashes out of one part under heaven shines to the other part under heaven, so also **the Son of Man** will be in His day.
- 17:26 – And as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of **the Son of Man**:
- 17:30 – Even so will it be in the day when **the Son of Man** is revealed.
- 18:8 – Nevertheless, when **the Son of Man** comes, will He really find faith on the earth?
- 18:31 – Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning **the Son of Man** will be accomplished.
- 19:10 – For **the Son of Man** has come to seek and to save that which was lost.
- 21:27 – Then they will see **the Son of Man** coming in a cloud with power and great glory.
- 21:36 – Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before **the Son of Man**.
- 22:22 – And truly **the Son of Man** goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!
- 22:48 – But Jesus said to him, "Judas, are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?"
- 22:69 – Hereafter **the Son of Man** will sit on the right hand of the power of God."
- 24:7 – **The Son of Man** must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

## Jesus as the Son of Man:

- Matthew 16:13-17 – Jesus asked His disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." This statement of faith, according to Jesus, was absolutely correct because it had been revealed to Peter by the Father. Peter's answer helps us to clearly define the term "Son of Man."
  - **The CHRIST** - He is the fulfillment of all OT Prophecy (the Messiah, the King, the Savior, the Lamb).
  - **The LORD, the Son of the Living God** – He is God in the flesh (Judge, Lawgiver, Creator, Provider, Forgiver).
- Peter also preached to the Jews on the day of Pentecost that "God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, **both LORD and CHRIST**" (Acts 2:36).
- This is the specific meaning of the term "Son of Man" as Jesus applied it to Himself 80 times in the 4 Gospels.